CLAIMS

We claim:

- 5 1. A composition comprising 3-dichloromethylsulfinyl-7-fluoro-1-methyl-4-quinolone.
 - 2. A composition having the chemical formula:

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- 3. A method, comprising:
 - a) providing:
 - i) thionyl chloride;
 - ii) pyridine; and
 - iii) 3-chloromethylsulfinyl-7-fluoro-1-methyl-4-quinolone;
- b) reacting said thionyl chloride, pyridine, and 3-chloromethylsulfinyl-7-fluoro-1-methyl-4-quinolone under conditions such that 3-dichloromethylthio-7-fluoro-1-methyl-4-quinolone is produced.

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- 4. A method, comprising:
 - a) providing:
 - i) 3-dichloromethylthio-7-fluoro-1-methyl-4-quinolone;
 - ii) dichloromethane; and

iii) m-chloroperbenzoic acid;

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b) reacting said 3-dichloromethylthio-7-fluoro-1-methyl-4-quinolone, dichloromethane, and m-chloroperbenzoic acid under conditions such that 3-dichloromethylsulfinyl-7-fluoro-1-methyl-4-quinolone is produced.

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